

**KINGLAKE'S CRIMEAN DIARY [September 7<sup>th</sup>- October 18<sup>th</sup>, 1854]**

**Transcribed by Dr Douglas J Austin**

**With permission from the Syndics of Cambridge University Library**



***Alexander William Kinglake*** by Harriet M Haviland, 1863

**Kinglake's Crimean Diary**

**[September 7<sup>th</sup>-October 18<sup>th</sup>,  
1854]:**

**Cambridge University Library :  
ADD 7633/5/1-2**

Two brown leather-bound  
notebooks.

---  
*Supplementary fragment A: (Inside front cover): Illegible*

---  
*Supplementary fragments B & C: Notes on money due from and owed to  
individuals*

---  
*Supplementary fragment D:*  
---

The "Army & Navy" going to the Golden Horn

Pera. Delane £2 10 for wine to go on board  
the Danube ---

**Sept 7.1854**

At night Delane & I went on board the "Danube" - in a port tender lying in the Golden Horn under orders for the scene of the intended operations in the Crimea. I had no tendency for sleep. The wild dogs of either city bayed in their old notes and hunted wildly through the streets, but at last it seemed that they found their game in carrion found in distant regions of the city for the streets of the Golden horn became silent though far away among the dwellings of the Osmanli the baying of the hungry brutes still sounded but fainter and fainter. ~~Then about 3 in the morning the strange waking cry of~~

Layard,  
Agamemnon,  
Colborne, to flag  
ship Delane, do.

**Sept 8. Friday**

At 3 the morning the strange waking cry of the muezzins flew from minaret to minaret & at about 8 we started but after steaming a few miles the feeder of the boiler got out of order & we were only able to creep on slowly to Therapia & there after some hours by applying the donkey engine" wh to work upon the feeder the steamer was again put in moving condition, & at at about ½ past 1 p.m. we left Therapia and passed into the Black (*Sea*). The hot and brilliant weather gradually changed to cold North wind & rain & at night there was some sea running.

**Sept 9. Saturday**

North wind & rain. We made Cape Kali'akan in the morning & then steered seawards for some hours & then lay our course for serpent island. Cold wind and

rain till the evening when the weather improved, the wind became light and the sea smooth.

Sir Edward C. Bart. A. H. Layard Esqr M.P. J Delane Esqr A.W.K. proceeding to the scene of the operations with a view of witnessing them, as far as is possible without inconvenience to the services.

### **Sunday Sepr. 10.**

The island could not be made out & the vessel was steered westwards with a view of sighting the mainland as a Guide (if the island shld not appear) but at 7 the light-house on the island (at first mistaken for a sail) was made out, & at 8 a.m. we altered our course & steered straight for Cape Tarkan. At ¼ to 4 p.m. Layard suddenly saw a distant steamer. Was this a Russian or one of the allied navies? In a few instants more other vessels sailing ships of war & in less than a quarter of an hour we made out a fleet of 30 sail. But the fleet we saw was not not the great convoying armada for wch our eyes were seeking & there was some uncertainty as to what the fleet was. We however bore up for it (it was to the southward steering towards the coast) & after a while the French and English columns were made out. It appeared ~~that~~ as we approached that the French and Turkish fleets were in company sailing each in single column each ship about a quarter of a mile from the other. Upon this the sun set grandly. Our Captain communicated with the French Admiral (the Ville de Paris) and learnt that the English fleet with the French and others transports was to the Northwards about 50 miles & the "Danube" was put to full speed steering N. by W. ~~towards the N.W.~~ the supposed direction of the English fleet. At about 9 the Boat was stopped, and light were burnt by way of signal to our fleet in case shld be in sight, but we made nothing of our fleet that night.

### **Monday Sepr 11.**

Very early in the morning we came up with the the English fleet & the immense armament - several hundred vessels - which it was convoying. The Admiral sent Layard on board the Agamemnon, & took Delane Colborne & myself on board the flag ship "Brittania". I became the guest of the Ward room mess, but this (the first) day dined with the Admiral. In the evening we had intelligence that the French fleet had anchored at about 30 miles distance.

### **Tuesday Sepr 12.**

The whole of this day the immense armament destined for the invasion was slowly drawing together & before sun-set the French were near. We also neared the coast to the north of Eupatoria, & with glasses could see the character of it Instantly - a low cliff - & the ground rising gently above the summit. We anchored for the night a little to the north of Eupatoria. The French intimated by a steamer that they instead of anchoring wd go on all night & land in the morning but the English admiral disapproved this, for this reason among others - viz that the French fleet even though it sailed all night wd be up with its transports at the points destined for embarkation at an early hour.

### **Sepr 13. Monday**

The English were forced by the current, for though the Napoleon came up early in the morning towing the Ville de Paris (the admiral) and other vessels, the other portions of the French fleet & very many if not all of their transports were still distant even so late as noon. ~~About noon we understood that~~ The armament

slowly convoyed upon the coast of Eupatoria, & at about noon were near the town of Eupatoria. We had before seen the country pretty clearly with glasses & could distinguish the character of the farm buildings & see horsemen single horsemen rapidly passing. The flotilla still continued to converge upon us. Eupatoria was summoned to surrender. The person to whom the summons was delivered received it in due form according to Quarantine regulations fumigating it before he read it. It was intimated that the place was defenceless, & that no resistance would or could be attempted, but after all it was not thought therefore advisable to take possession of the place.

#### **Sept. 14. 1854. Thursday Wednesday**

This morning at an early hour the landing of the troops commenced. The kindness of the Admiral gave us an opportunity of landing & we passed several hours on shore whilst the landing of the troops proceeded. All was conducted admirably, & the whole of the British Infantry & artillery, & (as I understand) all the French troops (who were only infantry & artillery) were also safely landed. The people of the country did not flee or drive away their cattle at the approach of the troops, & I saw several small bullock carts with their drivers quietly appropriated by the troops & it did not seem that any ill demeanour was occasioned by the act, though (from want of a common language) there was no announcement that the property appropriated would be duly paid for. The owners or drivers of the carts assisted in packing them. It was chiefly in carrying the engineering tools that they were used. Our troops landed on the neck of the land between the sea & the putrid lake formed on the beach, piled arms, & remained there for some hours & then were successively marched off towards the South.

The dead & dying. Graves dug &c. Sir Colin Campbell very kind, offering to welcome me to his quarters such as they might be.

#### **Friday Sept 15.**

The landing proceeded, though the wind having changed, & blowing on the shore, there was a surf which made the operation difficult especially for the cavalry. With Layard & Delane we visited Soliman Pasha in his tent. He appeared to have effected his disembarkation very successfully.

#### **Saturday Sept 16.**

The landing proceeded, but with difficulty, on account of the increasing surf. Dined & slept on board the Trafalgar Captain Greville's ship.

#### **Sunday Sept 17 1854.**

We landed and pitched our tent at first on the beach, & afterwards at head quarters on the height above.

#### **Monday Sept 18 1854**

The landing proceeded & was nearly if not quite completed.

*[ DELETED LINES OF TEXT - illegible ]*

Delane went on board ship & afterwards embarked on board the Banshee for England. After infinite trouble & anxiety I succeeded in getting a horse &

servants, & (through Delane) a right to draw for rations, & hopes of an Araba from the Commissariat.

### **Tuesday 19th.**

After seeing my baggage put on board some Arabas belonging to the Commissariat, I started to overtake the main body of the Army wh had marched at an earlier hour. The character of the ground, gently undulating, and covered with a fragrant wild thyme which when crushed by the hoofs of horses & men filled the air with sweet odours. A perfect country for military movements. An army cd absolutely advance in order of battle, and there was not so much as a rabbit hole to embarrass the movements of the cavalry. The quantity of suffering brought to the rear. Making a cut across the country I came upon the route of the 1st Division & marched during the day with my kind friends Sir Colin Campbell, Stirling, Mansfield & Shadwell. The Division marched in great breadth - in what I believe is called Double columns of companies. The bands playing. Still more imposing the deep silence wh followed. The mighty column crept on with scarcely more noise than was occasioned by the hissing of the wild thyme stems under the feet of the soldiers. In the afternoon having then ridden a little in advance with the light Division came upon the Bulganak, and the post-house on its bank. I observed that the Cavalry moved forward, & young(?) Chapman telling me that the enemy had been seen & that there was something going on we went forward. It appeared that our Cavalry having advanced ~~imprudent~~ rather far, the enemy had suddenly shown a largely superior force of Cavalry, sustained by Artillery, & it became necessary to move up some artillery & portion of the light Division in support in order to extricate the Cavalry from its position. This was done accordingly. Our cavalry sustained with finesse and without loss a brisk cannonade from the enemy's artillery. There was a horse killed. The infantry with whom I stood were ordered to lie down, but two got wounds wh necessitated amputations. Our Artillery practice though it did not I believe ~~destroy~~ do much actual damage (about 6 it killed and wounded) shewed what might be expected, & the demonstration sufficed to extricate the Caalry, who all came back slowly & in perfect order. Such was "the affair of the Bulganak"

### **Wednesday the 20th.**

Soon after 7 a.m. the Army marched on its right so as to effect a complete junction with the French. Junction effected, advance of the united force towards the Alma. The Russians in force on the left Bank. On our side a gentle descent towards the river. There on other side a fringe of picquets, & on our side a village. The Russian side much more steep, with eminences wh. admitted of active defences, & in particular of enfilading positions. The main battery a breastwork, & another up work above it. It was understood that the French were to descend into the valley, carry the River & crown the heights facing the extreme left of the Russian, the English General keeping his army in immediate contact with the French left and screening it from all attack, but from the point of junction with the French towards our left our army was to be a little refused The Army in order of battle. At about ½ past one the rattle of musketry in the picquets to our right showed that the French attack had begun & our skirmishers also went down with. Almost immediately afterwards the village with the numerous haystacks in it was fired by the enemy, & (the wind blowing from the Sea) a volume of smoke filled all that part of the valley which lay between the Russian & the English positions, but the view between the Russian and the French positions remained unobstructed. ~~Soon~~ Almost immediately after the firing of the village The Russians opened a heavy cannonade upon our line,

shelling us very severely. A portion of our infantry had to take ground to the left in order not to overlap the other portion of the line. The infantry suffered from the cannonade of the enemy & was ordered to lie down. Ld Raglan whom I accompanied from the action began was at this time passing from one part of the line to the other, & as he & his staff with their white plumes presented a fair target to the enemy, the shot & shell fell rapidly among us, & when we crossed the ford (the enemy having previously got the range of it) the shower fell thickly. During this time we were looking anxiously for the success of the French attack, & it was at length announced by an aide de camp that they had effected the passage of the river, but still we looked in vain for that full development of the attack wh. was to be the signal for our advance. The Russians still held the heights, though we could see from the direction of the fire that the French must be pressing up the hill. The enemy's cannonade being now very destructive to our troops Ld Raglan (after finding that the guns of the enemy cd. not be effectively replied to by our field pieces) determined to advance without further delay. The infantry accordingly advanced down into the picquets & Ld R & his staff (leading the troops if I rightly remember by some yards) galloped down to our right of the burning village till we came down to the river. It was here fordable. A large piece of rock ponded it back on our left & made a deep. One of the staff dashed his horse in at that point & his horse seemed likely to lose his footing. On the other side of the stone the place was better, & there Ld R crossed it. After crossing we dashed on & found ourselves in a gulley with hundreds & hundreds of French troops skirmishing with an enemy whom we did not see. Here Leslie fell & presently afterwards Weir. Ld R dashed on with his staff, I accompanying him, & found a track wh. speedily led us up to the summit of an eminence from wh. looking Eastwards we commanded nearly the whole position ~~towards the E~~ in that direction. "Our appearance here will produce the best effect" sd. Ld R. We now saw the comm(*encem*)ent of the attack by the Light Division, & the deadly struggle maintained under the battery. It was maintained for a long time with uncertain success. The enemy had two massive columns in support of the troops engaged beautifully poised on the side of the hill above the scene of the actual fight. If we had a couple of guns here what an effect might be produced. Two guns of Turner's battery brought & Dickson with his own hands working one of them. After the first shot or two they got the range, & the Russian columns were struck, & our shell ploughed into it. After some hesitation the column became shaken, ~~& the other column being~~ & retired away towards the S.W. & the other column having been treated in the same way soon did the like.

The struggle of the light division & the first divn. as directed by Colin Campbell. (X)

1. firing of the village.
2. Rattle of the French musketry.
3. Our skirmishers also engaged.
4. Heavy cannonade from the Russians, & infantry ordered to lie down. Staff much shot at.
5. Intelligence that the French had carried the river & soon we could see from the direction of the Russian fire on them that they were trying to storm the heights, but the Russians held their Ground.
6. ~~Meantime~~, the cannonade on the English line becoming more & more destructive, Lord R. (though the French attack had not succeeded as yet in carrying the heights) determined to storm the heights opposite to the English line, & having given the order for the purpose dashed through the Alma on the Western side of the burning village; 3 of the staff ~~shot~~ knocked over.
7. The view from the height.

8. The two  
guns. ---

*Supplementary fragment E:*

Kalou, 15 roubles per month.

Mr Rogers now on board the Hope.

---

### **Balacava. Octbr 3.54**

I owe Colebrooke £3.10.6.

Soap Blankets

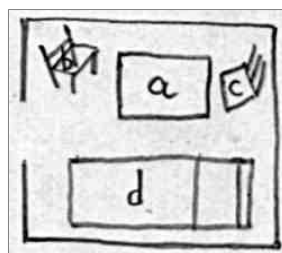
Candles

Butter

Sugar

Pepper

(X) Twice whilst Ld Raglan was on or near the Mamelon French aides de camp came asking for support. In each instance some aid sch aid was promised, & no doubt given, but the obvious serenity & firmness of the British Commander must have been in itself great succour to agitated men. Somewhat on our right (whilst on the Mamelon) there were French actively skirmishing with an enemy deep below them. Some British infantry wh. came up was formed on the Mamelon firing towards the East, & after a while this advanced. The Russian retreat along the whole line had now become rapid, & nothing but the want of cavalry prevented the British force from taking guns & prisoners to a great amount. I understood afterwards that our Artillery had an opportunity of destroying a large portion of the retreating force in consequence of its having mistaken Russians for French. A large force of Russian cavalry was now seen advancing to cover the retreat, & our cavalry was moved forward to meet it, but both forces were halted at a long distance from each other. Lord R. then deeming the day's fight to be over, turned his horse's head & rode back among the British troops now posted on the heights wh. the enemy had been occupying. He was loudly cheered by the troops. We then rode back to the river leaving the troops posted on the heights. We went to the village wh. had been burnt before the action. There were some of the wounded about there. There was some hesitation as to where to place head-quarters. At length they were put near the river on the right no. (*north?*) bank, & the tents which had arrived were pitched, but mine & all my baggage & servants were wanting. Lord Raglan asked me to dine with him alone in his small marquee tent. There was just room for a table two chairs & a small camp bed.



**a table   b chair   c arm chair   d camp bed**

Colonel Torrens who had just come up with his brigade was the only other guest. Ld Raglan talked over the action very kindly. I understood from him that the British attack was not to have been made until the French attack had been more developed & the heights crowned by them, but that he could not endure to see his men profusely mowed down by the Cannon, & therefore accelerated the attack. He spoke with high praise of Sir Colin Campbell, & mentd. the anecdote of Sir Colin's asking him to wear the Highland Bonnet. Ld R told me that the Russian General taken prisoner (whom by the by I had seen brought up as prisoner to Ld R. towards the close of the action) stated the amount of the Russian infantry engaged at 40,000. My servants & baggage did not succeed in finding head-quarters this night & I slept upon the ground by the side of a soldier who lent me a blanket.

### **Thursday Sept 21.**

Went over the field - a terrible sight. Vast numbers of our own poor fellows still lying wounded upon the field there being a sad (but I suppose inevitable) delay in removing them. In the evening from 8 to 11 I helped with another man to give water to some of these poor fellows, & did the like to many of the wounded Russians.

### **Friday Sept 22.**

Still on the Alma. Wrote some short notes to England.

### **Saturday Sept 23.**

We marched on the Katcha and took quarters for the night in a Russian Officers's house at Eskel. The Villagers who had fled came in making their submission. They told us that on the night of the action the Russian army had come there in some confusion & had taken up quarters for the night, but that about midnight a panic seized them & that they had gone off in confusion - some towards Bakshi Serai - others towards Sebastopol.

### **Sunday Sept 25.**

We marched upon the Belbek but took ground to our left to avoid the Star Fort & the other works in that quarter. We (head quarters) camped near the bridge, but the main body of the troops were pushed forward upon the heights on the left Bank of the river. This night I believe & not before the resolution was adopted to make a flank march seeking Balaclava as the new base of operations, & a naval officer with a with a single horse soldier was sent with a message (for a writing was thought too dangerous) conveying the requisite information to the Admiral on the Katcha. + (1) Shortly after midnight I was awakened by a sharp & continued rattle of musketry. Considering this an affair of outposts I did not at first move, but presently there was the report of a great gun, & I then got up & dressed but there was no further disturbance. I afterwards understood that a shot from the Russian works had passed over head quarters, also that the alerte had been caused by the Turks. + (2)

+ (1) I afterwards met the officer sent on this mission at Ld Raglan's table.

+ (2) Ld Raglan afterwards told me that he had not been waked by the firing, & that his servant (after some hesitation) had (blank)

### **Monday Sept 26.**

Went with Ld Raglan & staff to a high ground from wh a good idea of the place could be formed. Then the march proceeded. The character of the country was different from that open & unobstructed country the wh had hitherto traversed being intersected by high ridges & other ravines & in many parts covered with low forest or underwood. The march in masse was therefore no longer practicable. It happened that Ld Raglan & the staff were riding along side of the artillery whilst it was working its way up through a steep lane through a forest. Ld R and the first gun were just debouching upon more ground at the head of the forest when suddenly it was perceived that we were close upon a Russian force. Ld R & ~~all with him~~ quietly turned his horse's head & he & his staff and all of us quietly glided back, not one man moving his horse out of a walk. The cavalry whenever it could be found was ordered up with all haste, & ere long a considerable force was galloped up in single order along the side of the artillery. The Russian force it appears had fled at the moment of our seeing them, for the Cavalry was not able to overtake them. The force wh we had seen was the rear baggage guard of a large force -some 20,000 men leaving Sebastopol, & our artillery having fired into the retiring column a vast proportion if not all of the baggage was abandoned by the Russians on the road. There few if any of the soldiers present who did not obtain some article of plunder, & the men were greatly pleased at the incident. There was prisoners taken who stated that the the retiring column - wh our cavalry pressed to within a few miles of Backshi Serai - was under Menshikoff in person, but there always remained with us much uncertainty as to the truth of that. The enemy was marched - a long and forced march to Traktir on the Black River & Lord Raglan took up his quarters in a small building connected I believe, with the waterworks. Head Quarter tents and baggage did not come up & we had to pass the night without shelter & without food except such as men had about them.

*[Pinned insert]*

Camp before  
Balaclava **Oct.**  
**18. 1854.**

My dear Colebrooke,

Russel also is in distress for a telescope, so as you take mine will you kindly allow him to have the benefit of yours.

truly yours

A W

Kinglake

**Tuesday Sept 27.**

We marched on Balaclava. Al accounts from the natives concurred in stating that there was an armed force to oppose the march of the army, but when Lord & his staff rode round a spur of the mountain & into the narrow defile by the village of Kadiskoi, he was fired upon by a shell from an old & nearly ruined fort commanding the defile. The rifles & some artillery were then ordered to the front, but pending their advance wh occupied an hour or two the fort continued to fire shells many of wh (though they did not burst properly) fell near the road on wh Ld R & his staff were remaining. At length it was announced that the flag of the fort had been hauled down, & Ld R & the Staff followed by the troops, then made forward into the little town of Balaclava. The inhabitants came forward making signs of submission & offering loaves of bread. Ld Raglan & the staff rode through the town & down to the shore of the little harbour, & at the same time a small steamer under the English flag glided into the basin and

dropped her anchor. She came from the fleet under Lyons lying outside, & thus the object of the somewhat adventurous flank march was attained a new base of operations. Ld R was much pleased, & sd to me if Lyons were here, this wd be perfect. There was a little pillaging of poultry but not, I believe, any great excesses. We, Romain, Mr McDonnell Dr Smith & Russell took possession of a tolerably good house in the town situate near head quarters.

My dear Cookesley,

Lord Raglan has kindly promised to entrust to me his despatches to Constantinople, & I shall feel much obliged if you will have the kindness to let me have an Araba in time to reach balaclava for the mail boat tomorrow.

### **Wednesday Sept 28th**

(I) remained at Balaclava as our head quarters riding occasionally to the heights over Sebastopol which were occupied by our troops soon after our arrival at Balaclava. During this time the disembarkation of the siege train & of some of the Ships guns proceeded actively. Whilst at Balaclava I dined twice with Admiral Lyons on board the Agamemnon, & once with Ld Raglan. At Ld R's I sat next him, & we conversed on the battle of the Alma, & I was glad to find that his impression as to that portion of the battle wh came within our sight appeared to coincide with mine.

*(N.B. Apparent gap in Diary - No gap in text and no pages removed.)*

### **Thursday Oct 5**

Head Quarters moved to the Camp before ~~Balaclava~~ Sebastopol.

### **Friday Oct 6.**

Moved to the Head Quarter camp, & pitched my tent next Romaine's

### **Oct**

This night the "trenches" - i.e. the cuttings intended to form the batteries (for no approaches were thought necessary) were opened.

### **Oct - to Oct 13 inclusive.**

During this time the works progressed, but somewhat slowly. During a great part of the day time & occasionally during the night a cannonade from the enemy's batteries was kept up against the French and English lines, but (although there was now & then a small - very small affairs of picquets & attempts by the Russians at reconnaissances in force) nothing worthy of the name of a sally was attempted. There was a report that the enemy were gathering in force upon our rear, & several statements concurred in orders indicating the 13th as the day for an attack on Balaclava. Sir Colin Campbell was appointed to arrange the defences of the place & (I believe) to take the command there. During this period Romaine & I were in the habit of going daily or nearly so to an eminence near Upton's house from which we had a capital view of Sebastopol, its shipping & batteries, & of the firing & of the effect produced by it. On one of those days we were a good deal interested in watching the attempt of the Russian batteries to destroy a large merchant vessel wh we thought at the time was English wh we afterwards understood to be an Austrian vessel carrying hay for our troops. It seems that when the crew found the vessel inevitably nearing

the batteries they set all her sails square, & lashed the helm so as to give her the best chance of making her way past the great batteries wh threatened her. The result was that the vessel under a very light (& occasionally almost failing) breeze slowly headed in so as to be continually coming nearer & nearer to the great forts St Nicholas & Alexander, but so as that if not sunk or crippled by the batteries she might ultimately creep into the bay (Quarantine bay they said - the opening of Kersonese bay as I thought) & there find shelter from the guns. The deserted vessel thus ran the gauntlet of the forts, & was the object of such a furious cannonade when under the guns of forts St Nicholas & Alexander that her destruction seemed certain, & many of the shots went very close - one almost hulled her - but the greater number fell wide. We could see a vast number of spectators collected on the fort to witness as they no doubt hoped the sinking of the vessel. When she came very near the forts the Russians it seems sent out a steamer to bring her in, but forthwith the firebrand (*Firebrand*) advanced within range of the forts, & partially engaging them, & a shot in her hull, drove back the Russian steamer. The cannonade against the vessel was now quadrupled but all in vain, & at length she headed on into a position wh sheltered her from everything except shells. In the evening (as I understand) the vessel was extricated from her position by our "Beagle", & brought safely into Balaclava.

#### **Saturday, Octr 14.**

There was today a most furious cannonade for an hour or an hour & half against the French lines. Romaine & I witnessed it from our usual post. I understand that as many as 860 shot had been fired in one hour, & as it appeared that the enemy had the range of the French batteries pretty accurately we feared that the damage done wd turn out to be considerable. This however appears not to be the case. I dined this day with the Adjutant General (Gnl Estcourt). He spoke of the hardship that it wd be to the troops if new clothes were not supplied to them without deduction from the pay explaining that after a time (a year I think) the clothes of a soldier become his own & these he has now been obliged to wear out completely in the public service.

#### **Sunday 15th Octr.**

I dined with Ld Raglan & sat next to him. He spoke of the very "handsome" way in which Colin Campbell had accepted the duty of providing for the defence of the rear (now threatened by Russian columns). C.C. upon Ld R. request being made sd he wd cheerfully act under the orders of Lord Lucan, but Ld R informed him that that was not at all his meaning & that the infantry & artillery was to be entirely under C.C.'s command. Ld R. said that C.C. was indeed a fine soldier. I said that until engaged in actual campaigning I had scarcely felt the whole force of the Duke of Wellington's expression in wh he indicated that his complete repose of mind depended so much - & as he used to say so entirely - upon one man (the Duke spoke with reference to the man commanding the enemy but in principle is not very different) but I said that I deeply understood it now, for I was sure that all of us had every particle of anxiety for the rear removed by this nomination. Ld R. warmly assented to this, & intimated that he truly shared the feeling. Ld R. spoke of his having just received 4,500 picked Turkish soldiers obtained for him by Ld Stratford. He said that some of them were "imperial guard". He did not know before that there was any such thing as a Turkish Imperial Guard, & he added smiling that he must brigade them our guards. He mentioned to me a matter wh shewed how skilful he is in effecting an object in a quiet way. The Duke of Cambridge had come to him in a perturbed state saying

that the drain for working parties left him in a state of alarm for his position, & he requested Ld R. to address a request to Canrobert for the loan of a couple of battalions. Ld R. sd that there wd be delay in his seeing Canrobert, & that he cd not ask the aid from Bosquet - the Gnl division but he suggested that the Duke of C. shd himself make the request to Bosquet. This was done, & the request instantly comprised. Upon Ld R afterwards mentioning the matter to Canrobert, Canrobert warmly approved, & sd he wd readily lend Ld R. at any time 14,000 men. "Quit intime by the bye", Ld R announced to me that our attack wd commence on the following Tuesday.

### **Sun Octr 15**

Gave notice to my servants Morris & Birch that my engagements with them with them will terminate before the expiration of the ~~next~~ new month into wh we shall be entering tomorrow.

### **Monday. Octr 16.**

It was formally announced that our batteries were to open fire at about 6 on the following morning upon a signal of 3 bombs from the French lines.

### **Tuesday Octr 17**

With Captain Berryman & Romaine I went to the summit on wh the "Maison d'eau is situate & before there was complete daylight. We had taken up our positions on the hill lying upon our faces for the trouble of not drawing fire & using our glasses to the best advantage. The Russian guns wh had been firing as usual during the night became more rapid as the light increased & (probably when the enemy was able to see that our embrasures were cut) the firing from the enemy's works became very brisk. I did not hear the preconceived signal of the 3 bombs, but the French now replied (though not as we thought with much briskness) to the Russian batteries, & then our batteries also engaged. We observed that the Russians appeared to have pretty accurately the range the range of the French batteries. The shellers(??) came up the hill Downcharging"(??) in great style. After we had been at our post about an hour, (other persons having shown themselves, & Canrobert's chosen being very near) the French picquet received orders to clear the height, & we went to another station towards our right above one of our own batteries. When I had been there some time Ld R. who was with his staff on an eminence a little to our right r me to his station placing me next himself, & saying they dont now molest us here. Our batteries after 3 or 4 hours firing had knocked about the round tower so severely (a gun on the top of it was knocked into a nearly perpendicular position & so remained) that its fire was entirely silenced, but the fire from the numerous guns in the earthworks about the round (*tower*) was still kept up by the Russians (notwithstanding the deformations effected upon those earthworks) with much spirit & temerity. Meanwhile the firing from the great French battery on our left had certainly slackened, when suddenly a great explosion on their line & it became apparent that one of their powder magazines had blown up. A few minutes after this disaster the French fired three or four guns from their battery, but even this effort was not long continued, & the ~~great fact~~ sad fact became apparent that the great French battery was for the moment silenced. Our batteries however continued their working with great spirit & steadiness, & ~~they~~ their fire blew up a Russian powder magazine situate on the redoubt or "redan" as it was sometimes called. Not long afterwards however the fire from the redan was resumed. Afterwards a magazine or rather I believe a reserve heap of powder was blown up behind our batteries but happily no one was hurt.

Between 12 & 1 the naval attempt began. We could see the French fleet but not the English because the smoke & the form of the ground interrupted our view. The French fleet whilst in action remained well to the South of Quarantine bay & did not (as far as I could judge from sight & from plans) seriously engage any great fort. We heard however until after sunset the continual rolling of broadsides from both fleets but we could (*not*) see whether any effect was produced by them, & we thought that the not seeing signs of a great disaster was an evil augury. Ld Raglan asked me to lunch with him at his ~~position~~ & the cloth was spread on the ground where we were. General Rose rode up & told me that the French would not be able to go again until "the day after tomorrow."! This information was determined me to go off by the mail of the following day, & I asked Ld R. to give me a request to the Commander of the packet to enable me to do so. Ld R. kindly said that he wd make me the bearer of his despatches in order that I might have facility given to me. Ld R. then said "if the French batteries had not failed, I think that I wd have come to an understanding with Canrobert tonight." During all the rest of this day our batteries alone steadily maintained their fire, & our works having been well placed, the casualties within them were few, though (there being no covered way) the Enemy made it rather hot for those going to & from the trenches. Ld R. in my presence despatched his naval aide de camp (Maxy) to Adl. Lyons to borrow some ammunition, stating that his despatches from Ld Stratford justified him in presuming that the Himalaya wd very soon be up. When daylight beginning to fail, we came down to camp very weary.

### **Wednesday Octr 18th.**

Ld R. sent for me & I found him & the staff horses at the door. Ld R. was taking some Chocolate (wh he asked me to share) & upon explaining to me about the despatches he said he was going to the front but had come back to a more regular breakfast. He asked me if I was coming to the front, & I said yes. After breakfast Romaine & I rode towards the front but before we reached the chosen position of head quarters, we heard in men's mouths "firing in the rear" & we afterwards heard a small gun or two in that direction. We found on inquiring that Ld R had gone to the threatened quarter, & by information of bystanders we rapidly tracked him to an eminence on wh he & staff & Bosquet had placed themselves. This commanded a grand view of the heights over the Inkerman valley, & of all the ground between us and those heights. Ld Lucan had been reporting the enemy in force about those heights & we at last descried at a high & distant point some horsemen & some infantry with a gun or two, but all halted at a great distance. Some troopers were ordered up but Ld R. evidently did not for a instant believe that the Enemy intended anything, & when he ascertained that the few troops were being withdrawn out of sight, he rode home to finish. The firing had been some long shot fired by some of the Turks, & Ld R was annoyed that such a thing shd have been done. All this day the French battery continued silent but ours I understood worked admirably & the works opposite to them were nearly silenced. About 3 or 4 oclock there was a very loud explosion in the Russian works - somewhere behind the "redan" I was told, but at this time I was in attendance for the despatches. Before 5 Ld R sent for me & arranged (in order *to*) gain time for writing another despatch to the Duke of Newcastle) that I should ride into Balaclava at a moderate pace, & that the despatches shd be carried thither by a rapid galloper, & delivered to me at the "Ordnance Wharf". Ld R. expressed a wish that I wd see the Duke of Newcastle on my return, & also Sidney Herbert & press upon them both the case of the army as to clothing. I spoke of the terrible winter to come, & of the necessity of determining what shd be done with the Army before it came too near. I said it

wd be my endeavour on my return to (*make*) people understand the magnitude of the undertaking in wh we were engaged. The secretary coming in to write I felt I felt able (rather reluctantly) to hurry away after a kind farewell from Ld R. & afterwards when I got into the working room from those of the staff who were there. I then returned to my tent bid rapid & most kind farewells to my friends then at head quarters (I had previously bequeathed among them my camp possessions) & with Romaine (who kindly accompanied me the greater part of the way) rode off to Balaclava. Sometime after my arrival at the Ordnance Wharf a Staff Officer & an orderly rode up & the despatches were delivered to me. I was put on board the "Minnow" wh shortly afterwards steamed off for the Admiral. As we passed off Sebastopol we saw a light, & the keen-sighted Officer at my side immediately pronounced it to be a fire in the place. When I set my foot on the Britannia I received the most enthusiastic greeting I ever received met with from my kind & attached friends of the Ward Room, but our mutual pleasure was immediately cut short by Macdonald who announced that I must instantly and without a moment's delay go on board the Danube - Mr Coker/Cater(?), who was to take (*me*) with all possible speed to Constantinople in the hope of catching the Mail boat before it started, In th event of our not catching the Mail Admiral Boxer was to be instructed to find the means of sending me as quickly as possible to Marseilles. We quickly steamed off in the Danube & I left the noble fleet whose lights shone high & bright around me & steered away on smooth water from the enemy's territory on wh I had been dwelling with so deep an interest.

---

*Supplementary fragment F:*

Almost always in the winter a cold of from 10 to 15 degrees of Reamur, & this is sometimes as great as 22 degrees of Reamur. A man in such cold cannot touch iron.

---

---

*Supplementary fragment G:*

2nd

Sir L. Evans

--

Light Division - Sir G. Brown

1<sup>st</sup> Divn - D. of Cambridge

2<sup>nd</sup> Divn - Genl Evans

3<sup>rd</sup> Sir R. England

4<sup>th</sup> Sir G. Cathcart (dead)

Artillery Genl Strangways

Engineers - Col. Alexander,

Sir John Burgoyne advising

generally upon the scheme of the Siege.

-

French -

1<sup>st</sup> Divn - Canrobert (at the Alma) (q. afterwards Forrest) (*Forey?*)

2<sup>nd</sup> do. - Bosquet

3<sup>rd</sup> do. - Prince Napoleon

---

*Supplementary fragment H:*

*Sketch plan of the disposition of British forces on the NE of Sebastopol,  
extending towards the  
Inkerman valley. [ Sketch plan absent ]*

---

## **Alexander William Kinglake (1809-1891), by Elliott & Fry**

Kinglake, Alexander William (1809-1891), historian and travel writer, was born on 5 August 1809, in Taunton, Somerset, the eldest son of William Kinglake (*d.* 1852), banker and solicitor, and his wife, Mary (*d.* 1853), daughter of Thomas Woodforde from Castle Cary. He was one of four sons and two daughters who survived to adulthood. The Kinglakes were descended from the Scottish Kinlochs, who had migrated to England under James I and Anglicized their name. Alexander William, known as Alec to his family, did not grow tall, had a pallid complexion and was short-sighted. Taught to read by his mother, he developed a lasting love of Homer, and in childhood also became a proficient horseman. Through his grandfather, the family inherited Saltmoor, in Somerset, where Kinglake became lord of the manor on his father's death. At the age of twelve, he went to board with the Revd George Coleridge at Ottery St Mary in Devon, which Kinglake considered 'a sad intellectual fall' from his mother's tuition. Between April 1823 and July 1828, he happily attended Eton College, where he became a good oarsman and swimmer. His one regret was that myopia denied him a military career. After Eton, he went to Trinity College, Cambridge, where Alfred Tennyson, Arthur Hallam, and William Makepeace Thackeray were contemporaries. He spoke in union debates and seemed perpetually short of money, but secured a BA in 1832, and an MA four years later. After Cambridge, he entered Lincoln's Inn on 14 April 1832 and studied law under Bryan Procter (whose wife Anne's literary circle included Thomas Carlyle) and visited Wales and France to reveal an early taste for travel.

In August 1834, Kinglake set out on an eighteen-month odyssey through Europe and the Ottoman empire. After encountering plague in Constantinople, he travelled to Smyrna, Cyprus, Beirut, the Holy Land, and Jerusalem, before crossing the Sinai Desert to Cairo. Following three weeks in Egypt, he returned north through Damascus and Asia Minor then via Athens, Corfu, Rome, and Turin to London. On 5 May 1837, Kinglake was called to the bar but did not enjoy a distinguished legal career. He continued to travel, visiting Switzerland in 1843, and the following year *Eothen*, his account of the 1834-5 Turkish adventures, was published and included two of his own watercolours. Leslie Stephen wrote of *Eothen* in the Dictionary of National Biography: 'though the book was rather absurdly compared with the ordinary records of travel, it is more akin to Sterne's Sentimental Journey, and is a delightful record of personal impressions rather than outward facts'. Soon after *Eothen*, two articles appeared in Quarterly Review: 'Rights of women' (December 1844) and 'The Mediterranean a French lake' (March 1845). Kinglake became a member of the Travellers' Club in 1845 and, eight years later, of the Athenaeum.

From August until October 1845, Kinglake travelled in Algeria, where he met Colonel A. J. L. de St Arnaud and heard about Colonel A. J. J. Péliissier, who would each command the French forces in the Crimea and were currently suppressing rebel tribesmen. Back in London, Kinglake resumed a busy social life. The writer Mrs M. C. M. Simpson recorded that 'he was exceedingly courteous to women and very generous to all who needed help' (de Gaury, 88). Although not musical he entertained Caroline Norton at the opera, and allegedly vied with the exiled Louis Napoleon (later Napoleon III) for the same mistress, the wealthy courtesan and self-styled Miss Howard (Elizabeth Ann Maryett). In February 1846, he crossed to Calais for a duel with Edward Marlborough

FitzGerald, which failed to take place. The high point of his many travels occurred in 1854. Kinglake went with John Delane, editor of *The Times*, and A. H. Layard MP to Constantinople and on to join the invasion fleet off the Crimean coast on 10 September 1854. After the military landing, he went ashore, witnessed the battle of the Alma from close hand, dined that night with Lord Raglan (commander of the British army, whom he had met riding with the duke of Beaufort's hounds in 1853), helped the wounded, sketched and recorded the scenes in his diary. Kinglake rode with the allies towards Sevastopol and watched them take up siege positions on upland to the south. From there, he saw the charges of the heavy and light brigades on 25 October near Balaklava, though soon afterwards he was invalided back to England.

In 1852 Kinglake had failed to enter parliament, but five years later he secured election for Bridgwater, as a Liberal. He spoke frequently in the house, but made little impact due to his weak voice and unimpressive demeanour, although he successfully took up the case of British engineers unjustly gaoled in Naples, gaining for them release and compensation. In 1869 he was unseated after bribery involving his election agent. He then concentrated on his massive work "*The Invasion of the Crimea*", which would cover eight volumes, the first published in 1863, the last in 1887. Kinglake had been granted unlimited access to Lord Raglan's papers by his widow, consulted French, Russian, and Turkish sources, and corresponded and interviewed exhaustively. He returned to the Crimea, hosted by the Russian engineer Todleben, who had so ably defended Sevastopol. But Kinglake's diligence, which delayed completion of the story until a generation after the war, frustrated readers and subjected him to repeated and tiresome letters from individuals like Lord Cardigan, who were determined to see their version of events in print. Inevitably, there were criticisms, not least because Kinglake's anti-French bias showed through. Nevertheless, W. G. Romaine, judge-advocate in the Crimea, wrote: 'For once the world is agreed and welcomes your work with a chorus of praise'; and Sir Robert Morier whimsically observed: 'It is a noble monument ... one singularly typical of the imbecility and heroism which make up the British character' (de Gaury, 131-2).

During the work's gestation, Kinglake published, anonymously, in Blackwood's Magazine (September 1872) '*The life of Madame de La Fayette*'. He still rode frequently in Rotten Row when over seventy. Towards the end of his life, he engaged in prolonged correspondence with Olga Novikov, god-daughter of the tsar, and also the Turkish playwright, Augusta Persee, wife of Sir William Gregory, under whose influence he subscribed to the defence of the Egyptian nationalist leader, Arabi Pasha. Kinglake dined regularly at the Travellers' and Athenaeum, despite increasing deafness, which made conversation difficult. In his eightieth year, on doctor's advice, he forsook the clubs, as gout and throat cancer took their toll. He died on 1 January 1891 at his home, 17 Bayswater Terrace, London, and was cremated at Woking, following a service in Christ Church, Lancaster Gate. His ashes were placed near family graves at Pitminster church, Somerset. Although Kinglake lived in rented rooms, he owned the manorial lands at Saltmoor, which were left to two nieces, as he had remained unmarried. The rents were allocated as annuities to certain friends and retainers, and provision was made for the nurse, Alice Dumper, who cared for him during his last days. His collection of books, oriental swords, and

other artefacts was distributed among friends.

Janet Ross, daughter of a long-standing acquaintance, wrote about 'that marvellous mixture of pride, of humility, of daring and intense shyness', and Kinglake himself admitted that, 'I have all my life suffered from constitutional shyness' (de Gaury, 146, 128). He also chided Olga Novikov, 'pray remember that I am a heathen' (ibid., 135), reinforcing Thackeray's post-Cambridge conclusion that Kinglake was an atheist.

### Sources:-

G. de Gaury, *Travelling gent: the life of Alexander Kinglake (1809-1891)* (1972) · W. Tuckwell, *A. W. Kinglake: a biographical and literary study* (1902) · A. W. Kinglake, *Eothen* (1844) · A. W. Kinglake, *The invasion of the Crimea*, 8 vols. (1863-87) · M. C. M. Simpson, *Many memories of many people* (1898) · J. Sweetman, *Raglan: from the Peninsula to the Crimea* (1993) · C. Hibbert, *The destruction of Lord Raglan* [1961] · *The Times* (3 Jan 1891) · [CGPLA Eng. & Wales](#) (1892)

### Archives:-

[Bodl. Oxf.](#), letters · [CUL](#), corresp. and papers · [CUL](#), corresp. and papers collected for his history of the Crimean War | [BL](#), letters to T. H. S. Escott, Add. MS 58783 · [BL](#), letters to Sir M. E. Grant Duff · [Bodl. Oxf.](#), letters to Richard Bentley and George Bentley · [CUL](#), letters to Edward Herries · [Essex RO](#), corresp. with G. D. Warburton · [FM Cam.](#), letters to Mrs Wynne Finch and her son Guy Le Strange · Gwent RO, letters to Somerset family · [Mitchell L., Glas.](#), Glasgow City Archives, letters to Sir William Stirling-Maxwell · [NL Scot.](#), corresp. with Blackwoods, MS of *The invasion of the Crimea* · [NRA, priv. coll.](#), letters to John Swinton · [NRA, priv. coll.](#), corresp. with Lord Wemyss · [TCD](#), letters to William Edward Hartpole Lecky and Mrs Lecky · [Trinity Cam.](#), letters to Lord Houghton · U. Newcastle, Robinson L., letters to Madame de Bury · [U. Nott.](#), Pelham MSS · John Sweetman, 'Kinglake, Alexander William (1809-1891)', *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, Oxford University Press, Sept 2004; online edn, May 2006.

### Likenesses:-

H. M. Haviland, oils, c.1863, [NPG](#) · Elliott & Fry, photograph, [NPG](#) [*see illus.*] · London Stereoscopic Co., carte-de-visite · J. Watkins, carte-de-visite, [NPG](#) · Webber & Blizard, carte-de-visite, [NPG](#) · caricature, chromolithograph, [NPG](#); repro. in *VF* (2 March 1872)

### Wealth at death:-

£16,296 17s. 3d.: re-sworn probate, June 1892, *CGPLA Eng. & Wales* (1891)



**John Thadeus Delane (1817-1879),** by Herbert Watkins, late 1850s

Delane, John Thadeus (1817-1879), newspaper editor, was born on 11 October 1817 at South Molton Street, London, the second of the nine children of William Delane (1793-1857), barrister and treasurer of *The Times*, and his wife, Mary Ann White (*d.* 1869), niece of Colonel John Babington. The family was descended from the Delaneys of Mountreth, Queen's county, Ireland. Delane's childhood was spent at his father's house at Easthampstead, Berkshire, within a united family. After early education at private schools, Delane attended King's College, London, from 1833 to 1835, and then received private tuition from Dr Jeremiah Bowles at Faringdon Hall, Oxfordshire, before entering Magdalen Hall, Oxford, in 1836. At Oxford Delane's exploitation of his natural talents, especially his quickness of apprehension and resourcefulness, compensated for some lack of application to his studies. He enjoyed many forms of sport, and once got the better of a former prizefighter, 'the Chicken of Wheatley', in a confrontation between students and quarrymen. At Oxford, as throughout his life, horse-riding was Delane's favourite exercise, to the extent that his tutor once remarked: 'We must remember that he, like the centaurs of old, is part and parcel of his horse' (Dasent, 1.18). Delane was attracted at this time to the Oxford Movement and, though he never discussed his religion, he was throughout his life a sincere and tolerant Anglican.

Delane graduated BA in July 1840 and was immediately employed by *The Times*, for which his father had been treasurer since 1831. There was also social contact between the Delane and Walter families, who were neighbours in Berkshire. John Walter (1776-1847), chief proprietor of *The Times*, had recognized John Delane's potential and now took steps to develop it through experience in a range of reporting and editorial tasks under the direction of the editor, Thomas Barnes. Barnes was in failing health, and died in May 1841 without an obvious successor. Walter appointed Delane to the vacancy, causing an elated twenty-three year old to exclaim to his fellow lodger, the publisher John Blackwood, 'By Jove, John, what do you think has happened? I am editor of *The Times*' (Dasent, 1.26). He was to retain the position for thirty-six years.

At first Delane was merely the chief editorial lieutenant, supervising matters already defined by the chief proprietor. However, the title of 'editor' soon gained Delane's admission to circles where political intelligence could be gathered. Delane had superlative abilities in this regard, as well as a sharp eye for good news stories. He quickly won the confidence and loyalty of the old guard of reporters and established good working relationships with his leader writers, though he directed from above whereas Barnes had done so from within. After only two years of Delane's editorship a former editor noted that *The Times* had become mild, argumentative, and discriminating, in contrast to its thundering reputation under Barnes.

Delane had quickly learned that moderation is strength, but in 1847 the strength of his own position was seriously threatened by a fracture in the relationship of trust between the chief proprietor and his father. The cause was a misleading financial statement prepared by the treasurer. John Walter, terminally ill, decided that William Delane must go, and that he must surrender his *Times* shares. Delane's father would not accept the terms offered, and the continuance of the dispute over several months placed Delane in a very difficult

position. His call to the bar in May 1847 suggests private doubts as to the outcome. Eventually William Delane was persuaded, for the sake of his son's future, to agree to Walter's terms. Within a few days Walter was dead.

The new chief proprietor was his eldest son, also John Walter (1818–1894), a year younger than Delane, who wished to combine control of *The Times* with his duties as a landowner and member of parliament. He needed Delane to take full editorial responsibility, but this did not stop Walter, especially in the early years, from taking a close interest in the paper's content and editorial direction, which Delane sometimes resented. Nevertheless there ensued a relationship of mutual respect shading into friendship, in which Walter played the role of constitutional monarch to Delane's prime minister. Delane ran *The Times* like a great department of state, and managed the editorial side brilliantly. A measure of Delane's achievement is in the circulation figures. These progressed from about 20,000 copies in 1842 to a sustained level of more than 60,000 copies throughout the last decade of Delane's editorship, despite pressure from cheaper competing titles.

Delane's first major exclusive was published in December 1845, when *The Times* announced the imminent repeal of the corn laws on the basis of information from Lord Aberdeen, Peel's foreign secretary. The close understanding which developed between Delane and Aberdeen provided a valuable political tutelage. Delane greatly respected Aberdeen as his mentor during this early stage of his editorial career. The later close relationship with Palmerston developed only after a long period during which *The Times* had generally opposed his policies. An intuitive ability to see 'how it will look tomorrow' was an important factor in Delane's success as a journalist. He was particularly adept in the art of 'journalistic curvature', the process by which the editor steered opinions into new directions which his finely tuned political antennae told him governments would presently follow. Although this practice led to criticism of *The Times* for vacillation, it was also crucial to the paper's reputation and influence. In its implementation Delane was ever careful not to require leader writers to write in support of views and policies with which they did not agree.

Under Delane's editorship *The Times* was loosely identified with Liberalism, but his main concern was always to maintain the paper's independence, so as to be able to support governments without being their organ. This support was lent rather than given, and could at any time be replaced by criticism or outright opposition. The power of *The Times* in opposition to government was seen very clearly during the Crimean War, when Delane felt it was his duty to condemn those directing the war. Kinglake wrote of the great journal using its leadership 'to speak, nay, almost one may say to act, in the name of a united people' (Kinglake, 203).

That Delane was 'the man who worked *The Times*' was universally known, but in exercising this role he maintained the closest anonymity. Only once was 'the man in the mask' forced to break cover. During an acrimonious dispute with Richard Cobden in 1863 - over views expressed by John Bright and Cobden respecting the distribution of landed property - Delane argued, in a letter which Cobden published, that public questions were 'best discussed, not between Mr Cobden and Mr Delane, but as it has always been the practice of the English

press to discuss them—anonymously’ (Dasent, 2.89). In certain directions Delane enhanced the editor's reputation at the paper's expense, and the man became inseparable, in the world's eyes, from the paper. A late twentieth-century assessment, by Stephen Koss, is that it was Delane who formulated a principle that ‘the duty of the press is to speak; of the statesman to be silent’ (*The Times*, 6 Feb 1852), in which privilege was mistaken for duty and abused. In his lifetime Delane was widely regarded as the unquestioned head of the journalistic profession, who had done much to raise the tone of journalism. Some of his innovative methods of reporting news, which included the use of interviews, and his Crimean and other ‘crusades’, foreshadowed the ‘new journalism’ of the later nineteenth century. In a centennial tribute William Stebbing referred to the extraordinary degree to which Delane won the admiration of rival journalists and concluded that he had been the ideal editor.

In the social circles which Delane frequented, constantly on the alert for political intelligence, he was welcomed as a delightful companion. He was observant, critical, somewhat reserved, and imperturbably calm, but among friends he would talk animatedly and without restraint. When other men opened their minds, Delane measured them, but all who confided in him knew he would scrupulously respect their trust. As editor Delane was seen as a proud, harsh man, a hard taskmaster who was also true, sincere, and kind-hearted. His idea of dignified happiness was that of a country gentleman, and in mid-life this robust man, with his florid complexion, bright eyes, and genial smile between mutton-chop whiskers, looked the part. In the 1860s Delane still paid his morning calls on horseback before riding to the House of Commons. He claimed to have been the last man to ride through Fleet Street to the West End, on one occasion with a duke walking on either side as he proceeded slowly down Whitehall. He was elected to the Reform Club (1857) and to the Athenaeum (1862). In 1874 he was appointed deputy lieutenant for Berkshire.

Although Delane wrote little for publication—his peculiar facility as a journalist was in polishing and sharpening articles written by others—he was a prolific letter and note writer. Every day he wrote terse and vigorous directions to his leader writers, letters of advice, instruction and criticism to foreign and war correspondents, letters to friends, and an account of the day's activities to his mother. Few Indian mails failed to include letters to two brothers, who were army officers there. All these were written with a quill pen dipped in an inkstand formed from the hoof of a favourite horse. Letters written on holidays show a persistent interest in distances, speeds, and prices. Delane expected all leading articles to be written, like his own notes of instruction, in good simple English, without slang or technicality. He watched with the utmost care every detail of expression, and thereby exerted a valuable influence on the standard of correct English writing. Henry Wace, a regular contributor to *The Times* and dean of Canterbury, considered Delane a good scholar, lawyer, and doctor—he had studied for a time in Paris under François Magendie, an eminent physiologist. But politics was what really interested him.

Delane married, on 9 August 1842, Fanny Horatia Serle Bacon, *née* Twiss (1818–1874), widow of Francis Bacon, assistant editor under Barnes, and daughter of Horace Twiss (1787–1849), barrister. Her grandfather was [Francis Twiss](#). There were no children from the marriage. Fanny Delane became mentally ill, and from 1853 until her death in 1874 had to be confined.

Throughout this period of 'married widowhood' Delane wrote constantly to his wife and kept all her letters to him. His personal correspondence during these years not surprisingly hints at loneliness and frustration, and he often comments on beautiful women he met in society. When first appointed editor Delane lived at 4 Chatham Place, Blackfriars, 'to be near his work', then at 22 New Bridge Street, before settling from about 1847 at 16 Serjeant's Inn, Temple. In 1858 he bought a property at Ascot Heath, to which he retreated whenever possible.

The editor's daily routine was both arduous—a sixteen-hour working day seems to have been usual—and stressful, demanding a peak of mental effort in the small hours. Delane's hand was firmly on all departments. Although he took regular holidays during parliamentary recesses, these were often largely spent in meetings with foreign correspondents and statesmen. Delane's commitment to *The Times* was total. He told John Walter, following an illness in 1861, 'My whole life is bound up with the paper—I must either work for it or not at all' (Dasent, 2.27).

His mother's death in 1869 affected Delane very much, and after 1870 he was often seriously ill from overwork, asthma, bronchitis, and gout. W. H. Russell found him in April 1877 'thin, old, bowed, speaking slowly, with glassy eye' (Cook, 259). Even before Delane retired, after attending to the issue for 9 November 1877, effective control had been discreetly and informally assumed by others. Delane's final months were spent at Ascot Heath, cared for by his unmarried sister. He died on 22 November 1879 and was buried in Easthampstead churchyard, Berkshire, on 29 November 1879.  
Geoffrey Hamilton

### Sources:-

A. I. Dasent, *John Thadeus Delane*, 2 vols. (1908) · E. Cook, *Delane of The Times* (1915) · [S. Morison and others], *The history of The Times*, 2 (1939) · H. Wace, *John Thadeus Delane* (1908) [repr. in *Cornhill Magazine*, Jan 1909, 93–100] · G. W. Smalley, *London letters*, 1 (1890) · *The Athenaeum* (29 Nov 1879), 695 · *Macmillan's Magazine*, 41 (1880), 267–72 · *The Standard* (25 Nov 1879) · *The Times* (25 Nov 1879) · A. W. Kinglake, *The invasion of the Crimea* [new edn], 7 (1883) · S. E. Koss, *The rise and fall of the political press in Britain*, 1 (1981) · H. R. Fox Bourne, *English newspapers: chapters in the history of journalism*, 2 (1887) · [T. H. S. Escott], 'John Delane and modern journalism', *QR*, 209 (1908), 524–48 · W. Stebbing, *The Times* (11 Oct 1917) · P. Brendon, *The life and death of the press barons* (1982) · *The Times* (1 Dec 1879) · m. cert.

Geoffrey Hamilton, 'Delane, John Thadeus (1817–1879)', *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, Oxford University Press, Sept 2004; online edn, Jan 2008 [<http://www.oxforddnb.com/ipac.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/view/article/7440>]

John Thadeus Delane (1817–1879): doi:10.1093/ref:odnb/7440

## Archives

[News Int. RO](#), corresp. and papers | [BL](#), corresp. with Lord Aberdeen, Add. MSS 43244–43252 · [BL](#), corresp. with Lord Carnarvon, Add. MS 60776 · [BL](#), corresp. with W. E. Gladstone, Add. MSS 44359–44454 · [BL](#), letters to Sir A. H. Layard, Add. MSS 38983–39111 · [BL](#), letters to Sir Robert Peel, Add. MSS 40519–40588 · [Bodl. Oxf.](#), corresp. with Benjamin Disraeli · [Bodl. Oxf.](#), letters to Sir William Harcourt · [Bodl. Oxf.](#), corresp. mainly with Sir William Napier · [GS Lond.](#), letters to Roderick Impey Murchison · [Herefs. RO](#), letters to George Moffat · [LPL](#), corresp. with A. C. Tait · [NA Scot.](#), letters to G. W. Hope · [NL Ire.](#), letters to G. C. Brodrick · [NL Scot.](#), corresp. with Blackwoods · [Ransom HRC](#), letters to Stebbing · [TNA: PRO](#), letters to Lord Granville, PRO 30/29 · [U. Southampton](#), corresp. mainly with Lord Palmerston · [U. Southampton L.](#), Temple MSS · [UCL](#), corresp. with Sir Edwin Chadwick; letters to Joseph Parkes

## Likenesses

Double portrait, photograph, c.1850 (with his wife), [News Int. RO](#) · H. Watkins, two albumen prints, 1850–59, [NPG](#) [*see illus.*] · Mayall, photograph, 1861, repro. in Dasent, *John Thadeus Delane* · H. A. G. Schiött, oils, 1862, [NPG](#) · C. Spencelayh, miniature on copper, 1862 (after oil painting by H. A. G. Schiött), [NPG](#) · E. Edwards, carte-de-visite, [NPG](#) · photograph, repro. in S. V. Makover, *Some notes on the history of The Times* (1904) · portraits, [News Int. RO](#) · three photographs, [News Int. RO](#)

## Wealth at death

under £30,000: probate, 19 Dec 1879, *CGPLA Eng. & Wales*

## ***Sir Thomas Colebrooke, 4th Baronet***

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia:

**Sir Thomas Edward Colebrooke, 4th Baronet** (19 August 1813 – 11 January 1890) was a [British](#) politician.

He was [Member of Parliament](#) (MP) for [Taunton](#) 1842–1852, [Lanarkshire](#) 1857–1868 and [North Lanarkshire](#) 1868–1885. He was [Lord Lieutenant of Lanarkshire](#) 1869–1890

---

University of Glasgow:-

<http://www.universitystory.gla.ac.uk/biography/?id=WH1412&type=P>

Biography of **Sir Thomas Edward Colebrooke**

**Sir Thomas Edward Colebrooke**, 4th Baronet (1813-1890) was Dean of Faculties at the University from 1869 to 1872. He was awarded an honorary LL.D in 1873.

Colebrook was the son of **Sir Henry Thomas Colebrooke**, the great Sanskrit scholar. He was Liberal MP for Taunton, 1842 to 1852; for Lanarkshire, 1857 to 1868, and for North Lanarkshire, 1868 to 1885. He was Lord Lieutenant of Lanarkshire from 1869 until 1890.

**Graduate Record for [Sir Thomas Edward Colebrooke](#)**

**Forename:** Thomas Edward

**Surname:** Colebrooke

**Degree Information:** [LLD](#) (1873)

**Countries of Association:** England; Scotland

[Addison 1727-1897 reads: Of Crawford; MP for (1) Taunton, (2) Lanarkshire, (3) North Lanarkshire; Dean of Faculties in Glasgow University, 1869-1872; born 19th August 1813; died at London, 11th January 1890; son-in-law of John Richardson of Kirklands, LL.B.]

*"Travelling Gent : Life of Alexander William Kinglake 1809-1891" by Gerald de Gaury: Routledge Kegan Paul, London and Boston, 1972. pp 107-119 and 120-139:- p 108:- "On a small sheet of paper...Sep 13 1854...note to Hamilton in Taunton" CUL Add. 7633.1.15-31.*

***Kinglake's Diary : CUL 7633/5/1-2***